What is claimed is:

1. A system for supplying a semiconductor manufacturing system control program comprising:

an administrative server;

a communications circuit connecting the administrative server to a controller of a semiconductor manufacturing system;

a facility provided in the controller for determining a time when a previously installed control program can be changed; and

a facility provided in the controller responsive to a result of the determination for storing a control program received from the administrative server through the communications circuit in a memory to be executable by a processor.

2. A system for supplying a semiconductor manufacturing system control program according to claim 1, wherein:

a time when the semiconductor manufacturing system is performing a process event for growing a film on a substrate under processing is not determined as a time when the control program can be changed.

3. A system for supplying a semiconductor manufacturing system control program comprising:

an administrative server;

a communications circuit connecting the administrative server to a controller of a semiconductor manufacturing system;

a facility provided in the controller for receiving input of a control program change instruction from a user of the semiconductor manufacturing system; and

a facility provided in the controller responsive to a control program change instruction for storing a control program received from the administrative server through the communications circuit in a memory to be executable by a processor.

4. A system for supplying semiconductor manufacturing system control programs comprising:

an administrative server;

a communications circuit connecting the administrative server to a controller of a semiconductor manufacturing system;

a facility provided in the controller for receiving input of a control program change instruction from the administrative server through the communications circuit; and

a facility provided in the controller responsive to a control program change instruction for storing a control program received from the administrative server through the communications circuit in a memory to be executable by a processor.

5.  A system for supplying semiconductor manufacturing system control programs according to any of claims 1 to 4, which system is further provided in the controller with a buffer for temporarily storing the control program received from the administrative server through the communications circuit and wherein the control program stored in the buffer is stored in the memory in response to a determination result or an instruction.

6.  A system for supplying semiconductor manufacturing system control programs according to any of claims 1 to 5, which system is further provided in the controller with a facility for retaining existing data used to execute the replaced control program and wherein the processor executes the new control program stored in memory using the existing data.

7.  A method for supplying a semiconductor manufacturing system control program through a communications circuit to a controller for controlling operation of a semiconductor manufacturing system by executing a control program, the system comprising:

a step of transmitting a control program through a communications circuit to a controller of a semiconductor manufacturing system; and

a step, effected at a time when the semiconductor manufacturing system is in an operating state permitting a previously installed control program to be changed, of storing the transmitted control program to be executable by the controller.

8.  A method for supplying a semiconductor manufacturing system control program through a communications circuit to a controller for controlling operation of a semiconductor manufacturing system by executing a control program, the system comprising:

a step of transmitting a control program through a communications circuit to a controller of the semiconductor manufacturing system; and

a step of executing the transmitted new control program in the controller using data used to execute an old control program.

9.  An administrative server for supplying a semiconductor manufacturing system control program through a communications circuit to a controller for controlling operation of a semiconductor manufacturing system by executing a control program, the administrative server comprising:

a facility for transmitting a control program through a communications circuit to a controller for, at a time when the semiconductor manufacturing system is in an operating state permitting a previously installed control program to be changed, storing the received control program in a memory of the controller to be executable by the controller.

10.    An administrative server for supplying a semiconductor manufacturing system control program through a communications circuit to a controller for controlling operation of a semiconductor manufacturing system by executing a control program, the administrative server comprising:

5        a facility for transmitting a control program through a communications circuit to a controller for enabling the controller to execute the received new control program using data used to execute an old control program.

11.    A semiconductor manufacturing system controller for controlling operation of

10    a semiconductor manufacturing system by executing a control program, the controller comprising:

a facility for determining a time when a previously installed control program can be changed; and

a facility responsive to a result of the determination for storing a control program

15    received through a communications circuit in a memory to be executable by a processor.

12.    A semiconductor manufacturing system controller for controlling operation of a semiconductor manufacturing system by executing a control program, the controller comprising:

20        a facility for retaining existing data used to execute a replaced control program; and

a facility for executing a new control program received through a communications circuit using the existing data